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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

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June 9, 1999

BY FACSIMILE

The Honorable Carol M. Browner
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
401 M Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Browner:

The Subcommittee on National Economic Growth, Natural Resources and Regulatory Affairs is conducting oversight of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Transportation Partners Program (TPP) because of its contribution to the Vice President's Urban Sprawl Initiative.

EPA staff informed the Subcommittee that TPP was funded at \$1 million in Fiscal Year 1998 under the Global and Cross Border subaccount of the Environmental Programs and Management budget account and is included under EPA's Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance project grant program entitled "Surveys, Studies, Investigations and Special Purpose Grants." Further, EPA staff informed the Subcommittee that EPA only funded unsolicited proposals instead of making awards based on a competition available to all eligible entities. As a consequence, pursuant to the Constitution and Rules X and XI of the United States House of Representatives, please provide the Subcommittee with detailed information in response to the following questions:

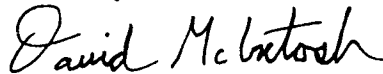
- Q1. What is the specific statutory authority for EPA's Transportation Partners Program (TPP)?
- Q2. For each of the nine principal partners, please identify the scope of work and associated funding for each of EPA's grant and contract awards in each fiscal year (FY) from FY 1994 to FY 1999 to date.
- Q3. For each of the nine principal partners, please identify (using IRS 990 filings or other information) the proportion of the organization's annual budget which is based on EPA awards and the proportion which is based on all Federal awards, including those from EPA.

- Q4. What output and outcome performance measures does EPA use to evaluate the success of the TPP and the accomplishments of its current and future principal partners?
- Q5. Since the overwhelming majority of commuters drive to work, please explain why a program called "Transportation Partners Program" appears to include no organizations promoting road and highway construction?
- Q6. For the period from January 1995 to date, please identify all principal partners, Board and Steering Committee Members of the Surface Transportation Policy Project (STPP), and/or EPA grantees or contractors that have participated, whether as a party, intervenor, or amicus curiae, in litigation to halt or restrict highway improvement or expansion. For each lawsuit, please identify: (a) any proposed highway project which is referenced; (b) the position of the principal partner on the proposed highway project; (c) the position of the STPP Member, if applicable; (d) EPA's position on the proposed highway project and/or the lawsuit; and (e) all Federal funding (from EPA or any other Federal agency) at stake.

Please provide the information requested in this letter by July 2, 1999 to the House Subcommittee staff in Room B-377 Rayburn House Office Building. If you have any questions, please contact Subcommittee Staff Director Marlo Lewis at 225-1962.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,



David M. McIntosh

Chairman

Subcommittee on National Economic Growth,
Natural Resources and Regulatory Affairs

cc: The Honorable Dan Burton
The Honorable Dennis Kucinich